

FARM NUMBERS HIGHLIGHTS

The number of farms in Kentucky in 1999 totaled 91,000. This number was up 1,000 farms from 1998. The increase in number of farms can be attributed to an increase in the number of small farms. A farm is defined as any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year. Government payments are included in sales. Institutional farms, experimental and research farms, and Indian Reservations are included as farms. Places with their entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, set aside, or other government programs are considered operating farms.

Kentucky ranks fourth tying Tennessee in number of farms. Ranking ahead of Kentucky in farm numbers were Texas with 227,000, Missouri with 110,000 and Iowa with 96,000. Of Kentucky's 91,000 farms, 52,000 had sales of \$1,000-\$9,999, 33,000 had sales of \$10,000-\$99,999 and 6,000 had sales of \$100,000 and over.

Land in farms was estimated at 13.6 million acres, down 200,000 acres from the 1998 estimate. Metropolitan expansion

continues to take farmland out of agricultural production. Farmland in Kentucky accounted for 54 percent of the approximate 25.4 million total acres in the State. The average size of a farm in Kentucky for 1999 was 149 acres, down from 1998's 153 acres.

The number of farms in the United States in 1999 was estimated at 2.19 million, up fractionally from 1998. The increase in farm numbers can be attributed to the continued rise in the number of small farms. Total land in farms, at 947.3 million acres, was down 0.7 percent or 6.2 million acres from last year. The decline in land in farms continues the historical trend of less land in farms. The average farm size decreased 3 acres from 1998 to 432 acres.

The U.S. number of farms in the \$1,000-\$9,999 economic sales class increased 15,690 to 1,196,640 in 1999. Those with sales in the \$10,000-\$99,999 economic sales class decreased 3,760 farms from 1998 to 648,550 farms. The \$100,000 and over sales class dropped 9,220 farms from 1998 to 348,880 in 1999. The drop in this class is attributed to low commodities prices during 1999.

NUMBER OF FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS KENTUCKY AND U.S., 1970 - 1999

YEAR	KENTUCKY			UNITED STATES		
	FARMS	LAND IN FARMS		FARMS	LAND IN FARMS	
		AVERAGE	TOTAL		AVERAGE	TOTAL
	(000)	(Acres)	(000 Acres)	(000)	(Acres)	(000 Acres)
1970	127	128	16,300	2,949	374	1,102,371
1975 <u>1/</u>	107	138	14,800	2,521	420	1,059,420
1980	102	143	14,600	2,440	426	1,038,885
1981	103	142	14,600	2,440	424	1,034,190
1982	103	141	14,500	2,407	427	1,027,795
1983	103	141	14,500	2,379	430	1,023,425
1984	101	144	14,500	2,334	436	1,017,803
1985	100	145	14,500	2,293	441	1,012,073
1986	99	146	14,500	2,250	447	1,005,333
1987	99	145	14,400	2,213	451	998,923
1988	97	147	14,300	2,201	452	994,423
1989	95	149	14,200	2,175	456	990,723
1990	93	152	14,100	2,146	460	986,850
1991	91	155	14,100	2,117	464	981,736
1992	91	155	14,100	2,108	464	978,503
1993 <u>2/</u>	95	148	14,100	2,202	440	968,845
1994	94	150	14,100	2,198	440	965,935
1995 <u>3/</u>	93	151	14,000	2,196	438	962,515
1996	92	152	14,000	2,191	438	958,675
1997	91	153	13,900	2,191	436	956,010
1998 <u>4/</u>	90	153	13,800	2,191	435	953,500
1999	91	149	13,600	2,194	432	947,340

1/New definition of farm, initiated in 1975; a farm is a place as of June 1 that sells or could sell \$1,000 of agricultural products during the year. 2/Reference period changed from June 1 to all operations qualifying as a farm during the year to resolve a definitional difference between the Census of Agriculture and USDA's annual farm count. 3/Farm definition changed in 1995 to include farms with 5 horses or more even if they don't qualify under the \$1,000 or more of sales rule; boarding stables and race tracks are excluded. 4/Revised.

NUMBER OF FARMS BY CLASS GROSS VALUE OF SALES, U.S. & SELECTED STATES

STATE	1997		1998 <u>1/</u>		1999 <u>2/</u>	
	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000+	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000+	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000+
KENTUCKY	53,000	38,000	51,000	39,000	52,000	39,000
Illinois	27,700	51,300	27,700	51,300	28,500	50,500
Indiana	31,500	34,500	31,000	35,000	30,200	34,800
Iowa	27,500	70,500	26,500	70,500	28,000	68,000
Missouri	62,700	47,300	62,700	47,300	63,100	46,900
Ohio	40,600	38,400	41,500	38,500	43,000	37,000
Tennessee	69,000	22,000	69,000	22,000	69,000	22,000
Texas	154,000	71,000	153,000	73,000	155,000	72,000
Virginia	32,000	17,000	32,000	17,000	34,000	16,000
United States	1,191,050	999,460	1,180,950	1,010,410	1,196,640	997,430

1/Revised. 2/Preliminary.

NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK FARMS KENTUCKY, 1979 - 1999

YEAR	OPERATIONS WITH CATTLE	OPERATIONS WITH BEEF COWS <u>1/</u>	OPERATIONS WITH MILK COWS <u>1/</u>	OPERATIONS WITH HOGS	OPERATIONS WITH SHEEP
1979	66,000	NA	13,000	31,000	600
1980	65,000	NA	11,000	29,000	700
1981	64,000	NA	10,000	25,000	800
1982	64,000	NA	9,500	20,000	800
1983	66,000	NA	9,500	21,000	900
1984	65,000	NA	9,000	20,000	900
1985	62,000	NA	8,500	15,000	900
1986	61,000	47,000	7,500	13,000	1,000
1987	60,000	47,000	7,200	10,000	1,100
1988	59,000	47,000	7,100	10,000	1,200
1989	59,000	47,000	7,000	9,000	1,200
1990	57,000	46,000	6,500	6,500	1,100
1991	55,000	45,000	5,500	6,000	1,100
1992	53,000	44,000	5,000	6,000	1,000
1993	53,000	44,000	4,600	5,800	1,000
1994	53,000	44,000	4,300	4,500	1,000
1995	54,000	45,000	4,000	3,800	900
1996	54,000	45,000	3,800	2,500	850
1997	52,000	44,000	3,600	2,100	800
1998	50,000	42,000	3,400	1,700	800
1999 <u>2/</u>	48,000	41,000	3,200	1,400	<u>3/</u>

1/Also included with cattle farms. 2/Preliminary. 3/Kentucky no longer publishes Sheep Estimates after January 1, 1999. NA - Not Available.